

CONDITIONS AND POLITICS IN OCCUPIED WESTERN EUROPE 1940-1945

PART FOUR. 1943 (Belgium and Luxemburg, Co-ordination Files, Denmark, France, General Files, Italy, Miscellaneous Files, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Refugees Files, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and Vatican).

Selected from PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE CLASS FO 371
(General Correspondence. Political)

The reel numbering of the whole Series is continuous.
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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

This is the fourth part of a major research collection for modern European history which has been selected from the huge and immensely important Public Record Office class FO 371. Part 1 covers 1940, Part 2 deals with 1941, Part 3 with 1942, and Part 4 contains the files for 1943.

The events of 1943 were critical for the whole of the Allied forces - particularly those living in occupied Western Europe waiting to be liberated. Mussolini was overthrown in Italy, the German Gestapo began a desperate purge of resistance movements, the Allies increased area bombing, and the 'second front' finally materialised. The British Foreign Office sought to put to maximum effect the information it continued to accumulate concerning key occupied countries.

Containing nearly 4,000 individual folders in 188 files, this collection is a unique documentary source for almost every aspect of the effect of the war in Europe and provides key insights into the diplomatic and propagandist strategy of the Foreign Office.

In all cases complete files have been filmed and there are a few instances when files contain material outside the main theme of this collection.

The general condition of the files is good but there are occasions when very poor duplicated copies or manuscript notes have been difficult to reproduce. Every care has been taken and the best possible image obtained.